

IFPS Job Sheet No. 2

Populating the Database

Objective — This job sheet will familiarize you with the various methods for populating the database. Populating the database entails loading either (1) MOS BUFR files, or (2) netCDF files for each model available in AWIPS.

During the population process, surface weather parameters are calculated from model soundings from the netCDF files. The surface parameters are then loaded into the database, and can be access from the Grid Manager, Spatial Editor and Temporal Editor.

Using a Procedure

1. Select **Populate** from the Menu Bar.
2. Select one of the pre-defined procedures from the list. This executes the procedure which may take a while to complete. This option also has the benefit of interpolating between data gaps during the population process.

Using the Copy All Grids From...

1. Select **Populate** from the Menu Bar.
2. Select **Copy All Grids From...**
3. Select one of the model sources from the list.
4. Select **OK**.

Using the Copy Selected Grids From...

1. Select a time period and one or more weather elements in the Grid Manager.
2. Select **Populate** from the Menu Bar.
3. Select **Copy Selected Grids From...**
4. Select one of the model sources from the list.
5. Select **OK**.

Using the Create From Scratch...

1. Press and hold **MB3** over a **gap**(a place with no grid block).
2. Select **Create From Scratch** from the pop-up menu.

Using Time Shift – This option allows you to either “speed up” or “slow down” the model.

1. Select a time period and a weather element in the Grid Manager.
2. Select **Grids** from the Menu Bar, and click on **Time Shift**. A dialog box will appear.
3. Select **Copy**.
4. Adjust the slider bar to the time range you want to copy the grid.
5. Select **OK**.

Using Copy and Paste

1. Make sure there is a weather element with at least one grid block and one gap visible in the Grid Manager.
2. Press and hold the **MB3 over the grid block** you wish to copy. Select **Copy Grid** from the pop-up menu.
3. Move the mouse cursor over the gap in the same weather element. Press and hold **MB3 over the gap**, and select **Paste Grid**.

Assigning a Default Value

1. Select a time period and a weather element in the Grid Manager.
2. Select **Grids** from the Main Menu Bar. Click on **Assign Default Value**.